

REMARKS

Applicant and applicant's attorney express appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the recent interview held on February 5, 2003. The claim amendments made by this paper are consistent with the proposals discussed during the interview.

The Office Action dated October 15, 2002 rejected all of the originally filed claims (1-36) under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,388,714 (hereinafter "Schein")¹. Claims 31-36 were also rejected as being indefinite for failing to provide antecedent basis for the term "the server." By this paper, claims 31-36 have been cancelled, making this rejection moot. As indicated above, this paper also cancels claims 1-2, 9-12 and 16-26; amends claims 3-8, 13-15 and 27-30; and adds new claims 37-57. Accordingly, claims 3-8, 13-15, 27-30 and 37-57 now remain pending. Of these claims, only claims 37, 44 and 50 are independent claims.

Certain passages in the Specification have been amended, as reflected above, to correct minor typographical errors. Proposed changes to the Drawings, specifically Figure 1, have also been filed concurrently herewith in a separate Request For Approval of Drawing Changes. The specific drawing changes that are requested include amending elements 14 and 20, respectively, to recite a "First Recording Means" and a "Second Recording Means".

As discussed at the interview, Schein neither anticipates nor makes obvious the claimed invention. In particular, Schein fails to disclose or suggest a method for enabling a server to control the recording of one or more selected television programs at a television system. Instead, Schein is directed to "system and methods for providing television schedule and/or listing information to a viewer, and for allowing the viewer to link, search, select, retrieve...and interact with information in a remote database, computer network or on-line server, e.g., a network server on the Internet." Col. 3, ll. 54-60. In Schein, basic program schedule information is received by a computer (12) that is connected to a television system. Figure 1, Col. 4, line 11- Col. 5, line 35. The user can navigate through the downloaded television

¹ This response should not be construed as an acquiescence in the propriety of Schein as prior art. Applicant reserves the right at any appropriate time, should it arise, to further distinguish the teachings of Schein from the present invention and to challenge the status of Schein as prior art, and any comment or argument herein in reference to Schein is made merely assuming that for purposes of argument, Schein would qualify as a proper reference.

schedule and select different programs for viewing and recording. Col. 5, line 51 – Col. 6, line 17.

According to Schcin, two electronic devices 70 and 90 (Figures 3-4) are used to facilitate the access/recording of a program that has been selected from the program schedule. The first device 70 includes “the key parameters needed for recording and/or tuning to a selected television program.” Col. 6, ll. 56-67. This device is used with “a remotely located VCR connector 90 to communicate [the] parameters [that are] needed for automatic tuning and/or automatic recording to television system 30.” Col. 7, ll. 13-16. The RF receiver 90 receives the information transmitted from the first device 70 and transmits it to the television and other peripheral devices. Col. 7, ll. 19-30; Figure 1. When a user selects “a program from the computer for recording...the information for activating and recording on the VCR is automatically sent from RF receiver 94, through VCR connector 90, to VCR 34.” Col. 7, ll. 49-53.

Schein does not disclose or suggest, however, a method, system and computer program product (as claimed e.g., in independent claims 37, 44 and 50) for enabling a server to control the recording of selected television programs. More particularly, Schein does not disclose or suggest a method that includes transmitting a selection of programs that are to be recorded to a server, and in response to that user selection, transmitting, from the server to the television system, recording instructions for recording the selected one or more programs, as recited in the claims. Accordingly, as noted in the interview summary, the “proposed amendments appear to overcome the applied art of record” and hence favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

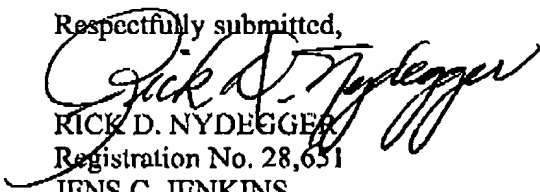
Lastly, as also discussed at the interview, for the Examiner’s convenience, applicant provides the following list of currently pending applications that may be considered related to the present application: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/306,642, filed September 15, 1994 (“RECORDING SYSTEM FOR DISPLAYING AN EVENT IN A TIME SHIFTED MANNER”), U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/952,582, filed September 12, 2001 (“PAUSING THE DISPLAY OF A TELEVISION PROGRAM AS A SIGNAL INCLUDING THE TELEVISION PROGRAM IS RECEIVING”), U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/993,814, filed November 16, 2001 (“INITIATING RECORD FROM AN ELECTRONIC PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE.”)

The following cases, which may be considered related to the present application, have been abandoned: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/038,240, filed March 29, 1993 ("TIME SHIFTING EVENT RECORDER"), U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/641,517, filed May 1, 1996 ("METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PAUSING THE DISPLAY OF A RECEIVED TIME SEQUENTIAL SIGNAL"), U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/848,895, filed May 1, 1997 ("METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PAUSING THE DISPLAY OF A RECEIVED TIME SEQUENTIAL SIGNAL"), U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/900,417, filed July 25, 1997 ("MULTI-FEATURED MULTI-MEDIA APPLIANCE").

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 12 day of February, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,


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